

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claim 18 has been cancelled.

An abstract complying with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.72(b) is filed herewith, thereby addressing and overcoming the informality noted in the "Notice of File Corrected Application Papers" mailed January 12, 2004.

It is believed that this application now is in condition for examination on the merit. Further and favorable action is requested.

The Patent Office is authorized to charge or refund any fee deficiency or excess to Deposit Account No. 08-2789.

Respectfully submitted,

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